

LANSBURGH & BRO.

XMAS FURS.

Nothing but the Best Ostrich
Feather Boas. * * *

Our stock of Feather Boas and Furs surpasses any assortment we've ever shown before. It would be wise to select now—delay means disappointment.
\$10 Black Ostrich Boas, 36 inches long. Special,
\$6.98.

Ostrich Boas, in Black, White and Black, Grey and White, and natural color—36, 45, and 54 inches long. Prices,
\$6.98 to \$27.50.

Our Ostrich Feathers are not the kind that easily get out of curl.
Red Fox Sets, Muff and Boa, each having the large head and tail. \$17.98 value,
\$11.98 Set.

Misses' and Children's Fur Sets at prices unheard of. Special prices,
98c to \$4.98.

Lamb's wool, imitation chinchilla, imitation mink, and stone marten.

LANSBURGH & BRO., 420 to 426 7th St.



DURING THE
BALANCE OF
THIS WEEK
WE WILL
OFFER HOLIDAY
BUYERS THE
EASIEST TERMS
EVER KNOWN.
DON'T SPEND
YOUR LAST
DOLLAR FOR
CHRISTMAS
GIFTS WHEN
YOU CAN BUY
THE HANDSOMEST
FURNITURE MADE
ON PRACTICALLY
OUR OWN TERMS.

GROGAN'S Mammoth
Credit
House,
617, 619, 621, 623 7th Street N. W.,
Between H and I Sts.

**\$20 Set of
Teeth for \$5**
Gold fillings.....\$1.00
Silver fillings......75c
Cement fillings......50c
Porcelain crowns.....2.50
Gold crowns (25k).....3.50
Teeth cleaned......75c
Electrical appliances in use. Our work
is guaranteed.
PHILADELPHIA DENTAL PARLORS
1305 F St. N. W.
OPEN SUNDAYS FROM 10 TO 2.

See That Dollar Parlor Lamp,
Best in the City for the Money.
EVERS BROS.,
1320 7th St. N. W.

DIAMONDS

Too much care cannot be exercised in buying a
Diamond. It is the one article where the re-
sponsibility must rest upon the dealer rather than
assumed by the purchaser.

Diamonds to be PERFECT must not alone
have the quality of whiteness. Many stones that
are white have flaws and other imperfections that
are apparent only to an expert.

So much a carat means nothing—no more than
"discount" from a regular price means a bargain.

Our stock comprises Rings, Pendants,
Brooches, Scarf Pins, Studs, &c., &c.—the
diamonds in which are all one quality—THE
BEST. We sell no second or third grade, so
that the price governs the QUANTITY—as the
quality is the same in ALL.

We are displaying a rare collection of
Rubies, Emeralds, Sapphires, Pearls, and other
Precious stones—mounted singly and in combina-
tion.

Store Open in the Evening.

Galt & Bro.,

Jewellers, Silversmiths, and Stationers,
1107 Pennsylvania Avenue.

AN ISTHMIAN WATERWAY

Construction of the Nicaragua Canal
Believed to Be Certain.

Friends of the Scheme Predict That
It Will Be Pressed Vigorously Dur-
ing the Present Session of Con-
gress—Route From Greytown to
Brito Thought to Be Most Favored.

Friends in Congress of the Nicaragua
Canal declare that the construction of the
great interoceanic waterway is assured, and
they predict that the matter will be pressed
vigorously during the present session. It
is said that there is a possibility that Con-
gress may not even wait for the final re-
port of the Isthmian Commission, as it is
generally believed that the route from
Greytown to Brito is more desirable than
that from Colon to Panama. It is also gen-
erally believed that the appointment of the
Isthmian Commission was dictated primar-
ily for the purpose of delaying the con-
struction of the Nicaragua Canal.

"Very early in the next century we will
see ships sailing right through Central
America," said a Senator on the Canal
Committee yesterday.
The idea of cutting a waterway across the
American isthmus is an old one. It was
contemplated early in the sixteenth cen-
tury, when the early navigators, perceiving
the narrow neck of land separating the two
oceans, were impressed by the advantage
that would follow to commerce should a
canal be opened through it.

Favorable Features Presented.
A. G. Menocal, chief engineer of the
Nicaragua Canal Construction Company, in
a paper before a scientific society, said that
the isthmus of Panama, being the narrow-
est part of the American States, and
Nicaragua, on account of the evident nat-
ural facilities presented by the lake and its
outlet, the River San Juan, have always
been the main points of attraction as pos-
sessing the most favorable features for dig-
ging the work, and as early as 1550, the
Portuguese navigator Antonio Galvao pro-
posed four routes, one of which was by way
of Lake Nicaragua and the San Juan River,
and another through the isthmus of Pan-
ama.

As the configuration of the isthmus be-
came better known, the belief in the prac-
ticability of joining the two oceans by a
canal gradually increased. At the begin-
ning of the present century Humboldt, who
had studied the problem on the ground,
endorsed the project as feasible and
later, through the united efforts of the
Central American countries, the great ques-
tion began to assume well-defined shape.
No surveys had been made. It was evi-
dent also that the expenditure of a large
sum of money would be required, and
while it was universally admitted that
the canal would be of great benefit to the
world at large, it was not equally clear
that the probable traffic seeking it would
be sufficient to pay interest on the capital
invested.

The gold discoveries following the acqui-
sition of California by the United States
and the rapid development of the vast
commercial and agricultural interests of
the Territories lying on the Pacific Slope,
aroused a political and commercial neces-
sity for a political and commercial necessity,
and the attention of American statesmen,
capitalists, and scientists was at once di-
rected to finding the most practicable solu-
tion of the problem.

An Old Conception.
There is a vast amount of literature on
the canal in the room of the Committee
on the Nicaragua Canal. In one of the
little pamphlets telling of the growth of
the plan to connect the great oceans by
an inland waterway, there is one which
shows that while the isthmus of Panama
link between the Atlantic and Pacific
has for centuries been recognized as the
only means of satisfying all the require-
ments of commerce, this route was not
great geographical and financial problem
to be overcome, but political ones as well.
Americans, anxious to meet the increasing
demand for means of communication be-
tween the two oceans, and to secure the
rapid development of the Pacific Coast,
turned their attention to an overland route,
and having obtained a concession from the
Republic of New Granada in 1849, organ-
ized a company and entrusted the survey
for a railroad to Col. G. W. Hughes and
J. C. Trautwine, well known civil engi-
neers.

This was the first authentic survey made
across the isthmus, and resulted in the
construction of the Panama Railroad be-
tween 1850 and 1855. In the mean time the
Government of the United States had or-
dered a reconnaissance of the isthmus of
Tehuantepec, and by diplomatic negotia-
tions with Nicaragua encouraged and sup-
ported it. It is said, the organization of
the Atlantic and Pacific Ship Canal Com-
pany which had obtained from Nicaragua
the right to build a canal, and pending
the completion of the work to establish
a transit between the Caribbean Sea and
the Pacific Ocean by way of the River San
Juan and Lake Nicaragua.

Col. O. W. Childs in 1856 examined sev-
eral routes between Lake Nicaragua and
the Pacific Ocean, and to him is given cred-
it for the discovery of the lowest depres-
sion in the Cordillera between the Arctic
Sea and Cape Horn. Through this depres-
sion he located a route for the canal, extend-
ing from the mouth of the River Lajas, on
the west shore of the lake, to the port of
Brito, on the Pacific. The main features
of which have stood the test, it is said,
of many subsequent surveys and rectifica-
tions in that region, and it is believed to
have been incorporated in the plan of the
final location of the canal across that coun-
try.

Report of a Former Commission.
There have been many American ex-
plorations on the isthmus from Tehuante-
pec to the Gulf of Darien, and even now
the Isthmian Commission has a large ex-
ploring force at work in the Darien re-
gion. Isthmian explorations were active
during the Administration of Presi-
dent Grant. The Commission appointed by
President Grant in 1872 to report upon the
various plans submitted by the surveying
parties consisted of Gen. A. C. Humphreys,
Chief of Engineers, U. S. A.; C. P. Patton,
Superintendent of the Coast Survey, and
Commodore Daniel Ammen, Chief of the
Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department.

This Commission reported on February 6,
1876, that "after a long, careful, and
minute study of the several surveys of the
various routes across the continent, we
unanimously report that that known as the
Nicaragua route possesses both for the
construction and maintenance of the canal
greater advantages and offers fewer diffi-
culties from engineering, commercial, or
economical points of view than either of
the other routes shown to be practicable
by surveys sufficiently in detail to enable
a judgment to be formed of their relative
merits."

There were four routes considered by the
Commission. These were the Tehuantepec,
the Nicaragua, the Panama, and the Atla-
nto-Napipi.
The survey of the Nicaragua route by the
United States Government was com-
menced in March, 1872, and continued until

July, 1873. Eight different routes between
the lake and the Pacific were carefully
considered. The survey of Childs' ac-
count of the route from the mouth of the
River Lajas to Brito was confirmed, but
another route extending from the mouth of
the Rio de San Juan to the lake north of
point on Childs' line nine miles west of the
lake and thence to Brito, was adopted.

The Greytown-Brito Route.
Among the members of the Committee on
the Nicaragua Canal it is believed that the
route so often urged as the most practi-
cable, will be followed.
San Juan del Norte (Greytown) on the
Atlantic, and Brito on the Pacific, are the
termini of the canal, the total distance
from port to port being 169.448 miles, of
which 26,732 miles will be excavated canal
and 142,659 miles free navigation by Lake
Nicaragua, the river San Juan, and through
basins in the valley of the streams Desaga-
do, San Francisco, and Tola. Lake Nicara-
gua is necessarily the summit level of the
canal, and its elevation above mean sea
level is taken at its mean at 110 feet.

It will be connected with the Pacific by
two sections of canal in excavation and the
Tola basin, and with the Atlantic by slack-
water navigation through the valley of the
River San Juan and a series of basins in
the valleys of the San Francisco and De-
sado, connected by short sections of canal.
The sea level on each side being reached by
three locks which have been located as near
as possible to the extremities of the canal,
viz, 3.1-2 miles from Brito and 12.3-4 miles
from Greytown, thereby giving a clear
summit level of 153.1-4 miles in extent out
of a total distance of 169.1-2 miles, as
stated above. For purposes of description
the route has been divided into four di-
visions, viz, eastern, San Francisco, lake
and river, and western.

Nearly every member of the Senate ad-
mits that the Isthmian Canal in a political
and strategic view is of greater impor-
tance to the United States than the Suez
Canal is to Europe or the freedom of the
Bosphorus to Russia.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

A wedding of widespread social interest
solemnized at 1 o'clock this afternoon, was
that of Miss Margaret Cox and Mr. Lau-
rence Vincent Benet. The ceremony was
performed at St. Paul's Episcopal Church,
which was elaborately decorated with holly
berries and the flaming scarlet of polka-
dot flowers, and filled with a distinguish-
ed assembly representing every phase of
Washington's social world.

The bride, fair and stately in heavy
white satin and duchesse lace, and with
diamonds flashing amid the folds of her
tulle veil and the soft laces of her corsage,
was given in marriage by her brother, Mr.
William Robinson Cox. Miss Sallie Cox
was her sister's only attendant. Her
gown was a rich green satin under white
organdie and lace. A pale green sat-
in bow ornamented her picture hat of white
tulle, and she carried American Beauty
roses. The groom's best man was Mr. Ed-
ward P. Casey, of New York. The ushers,
who preceded the bride to the altar, were
Messrs. Montgomery Blair, Mr. John S.
Webb, Mr. Alexander Legare, and Mrs.
Casper Crowninshield. The ceremony was
performed by the Rev. Alfred Harding,
pastor of St. Paul's. The ceremony was
followed by a breakfast for the wedding
party and a small company of relatives and
intimate friends at the residence of the
bride's mother, Mrs. Thomas Campbell
Cox, 1825 G Street. When Mr. and Mrs.
Benet left for New York the latter was at-
tired for traveling in dark grey English
knock and a velvet hat of black velvet. Mr.
Benet is the only son of the late Gen. Ste-
phen Benet, U. S. A., director of the
Hotchkiss Gun Company, and has for some
years made his home with his mother in
Paris. He will sail with his bride for
France next Wednesday to the regret of
her many friends. The bride of today is
the daughter of the late Thomas Cox, Sec-
retary of the United States American Mixed
Commission of the District.

The Misses Foraker were the hostesses
this afternoon at a luncheon in honor of
their house guests, Miss Reba Wallace, of
Philadelphia, and Miss Mary Brooks, of
Cleveland.
Justice and Mrs. Brown entertained at
dinner last night. Their guests were Sen-
ator Dewey, Justice Brewer, the Spanish
Minister and Countess d'Aros, Mr. and
Mrs. Wayne MacVeach, Mr. and Mrs. Ar-
nold Hague, General and Mrs. Greely, Mr.
and Mrs. Olmstead, Mrs. Audenfeld, Mrs.
Connally, Miss Goodwin, and Mr. Owen.

Senator and Mrs. Foraker gave a dinner
last evening in honor of their guests,
Miss Reba Wallace, of Philadelphia,
and Miss Mary Brooks, of Cleveland.
The additional guests were Miss Frouke,
Miss Sartoris, Miss Bessie Ashton, Miss
Marion Gallaudet, A. Rusten Boy, Charge
d'Affaires of the Turkish Legation;
Senor Galido, Charge d'Affaires of the
Venezuelan Legation; Senor Riano, First
Secretary of the Spanish Legation; Lieu-
tenant Ordway, Mr. McKenney, Mr. Butt,
Mr. Austin, Mr. W. H. Fox, Mr. Algernon Sar-
toris, and Mr. Polk.

Miss Helen Hotchkiss, of New Haven,
Conn., will be the guest of Miss Mary
Gallaudet after Christmas.

Senator and Mrs. Fairbanks have recalled
the invitations for the dinner which they
were to have given Saturday evening in
honor of Governor Mount, of Indiana, ow-
ing to the latter's postponement of his visit
to Washington.

Mrs. Thomas G. Alvord has invitations
out for Thursday afternoon, December 28.

Mr. and Mrs. George T. Newton, of
Capitol Hill, have as their guest for the
holidays Miss Ida Bell Cox, of Stafford
county, Va.

Miss Alice Collins, of Kingston, N. H.,
is the guest of Dr. and Mrs. Rufus Choate,
at 3285 O Street.

Miss Bessie Ward will entertain a num-
ber of her young friends tomorrow in
honor of Miss Reba Wallace, of Philadel-
phia, and Miss Mary Brooks, of Cleveland,
house guests of the Misses Foraker.

These young ladies leave for their homes
Friday morning.

The musical given last night, under the
direction of the National Conservatory of
Music, for the benefit of the Washington
Hospital for Foundlings, attracted a num-
ber of music lovers and philanthropists to
enjoy the artistic programme. Those who
volunteered their services for the hospital
babies were Miss D. Myrtle Dexter, Dr.
Anton Gietzner, Mr. Perry B. Turpin, Mr.
Anton Knap, Miss Jessie Cowling, Miss
Edna Bowers, Miss Florence Weiser, Miss
Alma Lemont and Messrs Emil and Weber,
Taylor Brenson, Louis Kruger and Julius
Loeffler.

GRIEVING IN A CAVE.

A Hermit of Fifty Years Found Ill.

STROUBSBURG, Pa., Dec. 20.—Chasing
a bear into the dense woods of Pike coun-
ty, a few miles from Dingman's, a party
of hunters came across a cave. Investi-
gation showed it to be inhabited by Aus-
tin Sheldon, an aged man, who for the last
fifty years has occupied it as his home. The
man was ill, but refused aid, saying he
was well able to care for himself. After
much persuasion Sheldon said:
"Here I have lived for years, and here I
hope to die. I want no other companion
than these mountains and woods give me.
All I ask of my fellows is that they will
leave me to follow in peace my own de-
sires."

When quite young Sheldon was married.
His bride died after a few weeks, and he
gave up the world and abandoned himself
to his grief. Sheldon says he comes from
Connecticut, and his people are of good cir-
cumstances. Enquiry at Milford shows
that the man's story was true. He lives
mostly on vegetables and chickens raised
by himself.

Nuts for Christmas

T. H. PICKFORD'S,
Cor. 9th and La. Ave.

Thursday and Friday ONLY!

We shall sell on these
days

New Mixed Nuts

at the lowest prices ever
quoted. Early orders
requested, as these
prices only hold good for
TWO DAYS.

These extremely low prices are unprecedented, and should
be taken immediate advantage of.

WHISKIES

Our stock of fine old Whiskies
is unsurpassed—pure, mellow and
aged—at lowest prices.

WINES

Port, Sherry, Muscatelle, Rhine
Wine, Blackberry Brandy and
Sweet Catawba—per large bottle

25c

T. H. PICKFORD,

Corner 9th St. and La. Ave.

NOT UP TO THE STANDARD

Fuel and Feed Contractors Called
to Account by Commissioners.

The Quality Furnished in Both Com-
modities Declared to Be Below
the Agreed Grade—Threats of Can-
cellation and of Losing the Of-
fenders Produce Better Results.

For some time past the District Commis-
sioners have been having trouble with the
holders of the contracts to furnish the
various District departments with fuel
and feed for the horses. The contract for
the present fiscal year was let to S. S. Daish
& Sons, and their record has been anything
but the best, according to the statements of
the heads of the different departments, who
have had dealings with the contractors. The
trouble has been brewing for some time,
and it is probable that unless the materials
furnished improve in quality and in meth-
od of delivery, the District officials bent
on the quality of feed which was being fur-
nished to the various engine companies, and
an investigation was ordered. At the same
time a similar complaint was received from
the Police Department, and an investigation
was started there, the papers in both in-
stances reaching the Commissioners at the same
time.

Some time ago the attention of the Chief
Engineer of the Fire Department was called
to the quality of feed which was being fur-
nished to the various engine companies, and
an investigation was ordered. At the same
time a similar complaint was received from
the Police Department, and an investigation
was started there, the papers in both in-
stances reaching the Commissioners at the same
time.

Straw Filled With Chaff.
It was found that much of the straw
which was delivered at the stables of the
various engine houses and police precincts
was filled with chaff, and in some in-
stances was unfit for use and had been re-
turned to the contractors. The attention
of the Commissioners was called to the
trouble which had been experienced by
the officials in charge of the District
stables some time ago, and the same rem-
edy was applied. In the former instance
the contractors were notified that unless
the quality of feed improved immediately
the District would go into open market
and purchase the materials needed and
charge the cost against the bond of the
contractors. In addition to this the name
of the firm would be placed on the failing
contract list, and they would thereby be
debarred from receiving District contracts
in the future.

The penalties to be inflicted
were not to stop here, however.
The list of contractors failing to
keep their agreements with the Dis-
trict Government is furnished also to the
various engine houses and police precincts
for participating in competition for sup-
plying such articles as may be needed
would also apply to the various depart-
ments. In this manner the failing con-
tractors would not only lose the District
contracts, but would, in all probability,
lose the awards of the General Govern-
ment also. When this statement was
made the delinquent firm, they imme-
diately improved the quality of the goods
furnished the District and there has been
no complaint since then.

Complaints About Fuel.
This was in the Engineer Department,
however, and it was thought that the hold-
ers of the fuel and feed contracts for the
other District departments would attempt
to work the same game on these divisions.
The number of complaints which have
been received seemed to bear out the theory
and led Commissioner Wright to suggest
that the same treatment be applied. The
result was that the fuel has improved in
quality and the service is now giving sat-
isfaction.

The most recent complaints that have
been filed refer to fuel, which is furnished
by the same contractors. The first com-
plaint was made by Superintendent McFar-
land, of the Water Department. He re-
ported to the Assistant Engineer Com-
missioner that the coal which was deliv-
ered at the pump-house on U Street was un-
fit for use and the contractor would have
to haul the last load away. This occurred
over a month ago. Captain Galliard im-
mediately purchased 100 tons of the coal
wanted, in the open market and sent that
which was in the bunkers to the contractor.
He also informed the representative of
the firm that the District required him

New
Mixed
Nuts,
lb.,

10¹/₂

5 lbs
New
Mixed
Nuts,

50¹/₂

10 lbs
New
Mixed
Nuts,

\$1.00



Bradbury's

Annual Clearing Sale

—OF—

Pianos & Organs

—ON—

\$1 Weekly Payments.

All the well-known makes of
Square Pianos and Organs in-
cluded.

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Stein piano..... | \$10 |
| Fischer piano..... | 35 |
| Knabe piano..... | 45 |
| Gabler piano..... | 50 |
| Seinway piano..... | 190 |
| Chickering piano..... | 175 |
| Essey organ..... | 55 |
| Smith American organ..... | 45 |

F. G. Smith,

1225 Penna. Ave.

See This Label?

The best bread
baked here is—
MYKYNZY
BREAD.
All ages
can enjoy
and
nutritious
and pure
without
the least
fear of
indigestion.
Your
grocer will
supply you
if you demand
Mykynzy Bread.
BAKERY, 714-716 ELEVENTH ST. S. E.

Gilt Frame 60c

ELEGANT Gilt Frame Pictures for
beautiful subjects..... 60c
An immense line of pic-
tures..... 19c UP

SEWARD & CO.,

736 Seventh St.

YOUR Grocer Sells It!

Long Loaf.

Grandma.

Square Loaf.

Old Homestead

The BEST Bread in Town

Baked by the

BOSTON BAKING CO

Bakers for the Multitude.

Meet me at Droop's.

Music Cabinets

(Lower than furniture store prices).

60c up.

Droop's Music House

825 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.

Regent

Shoes.

All the newest and
most attractive styles in
men's shoes.
Equal to any
made..... \$2.50

642 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Dr. C. G. PATTON,

GRADUATE DENTIST.

Best Rubber Plates, \$3.50. Gold Fillings,
\$5.00. 25 Kara Gold Crowns, \$8.
TEETH CLEANED FREE OF CHARGE.

Open Day and Night.

Call at any time. Always ready to Re-
spond.

DR. C. G. PATTON,
1215 Twelfth St. N. W.

BEFORE XMAS COMES

Have your teeth put in order
so you can enjoy yourself. No
happiness with aching teeth.
Crowns and bridge, \$5 to \$8
per tooth. Good plate teeth.
Teeth cleaned free of
charge.

THE EVANS DENTAL PARLORS,
Established 1858. 1309 F St. N. W.

Branch Office, 211 4th St. N. W.

For the Holidays.

MELVALE, OLD RESERVE.

ELK CLUB, EXTRA FINE.

70c Full Quart.

KARL XANDER,

1530-32 7th St. N. W.

44-1me

Presto—Light!

No looking